

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 SAJ-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-11

IGA-02 DRC-01 /153 W

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R 121215Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8314

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0094

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, XZ, VS, DA

SUBJECT: DANISH VIEWS ON IBRD ASSISTANCE TO RVN

REF: A. STATE 0691 B. COPENHAGEN 3025

BEGIN SUMMARY: DANISH GOVERNMENT VIEWS ON IBRD ASSISTANCE
CONTINUE TO BE INFLUENCED BY CONCERNS OVER AWAKENING
MILITANT LEFT-WING MINORITIES, JEOPARDIZING PASSAGE IDA
REPLENISHMENT IN DANISH PARLIAMENT AND VIEWS OTHER
SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRIES. WITH NEW NON-SOCIALIST GOVERN-
MENT, WE MAY EXPECT SOME CHANGE IN ATTITUDE, BUT THIS
NOT LIKELY TO BE SIGNIFICANT SINCE IT IS MINORITY GOVERNMENT
IN PRECARIOUS PARLIAMENTARY POSITION. WE ONCE AGAIN
IMPRESSED ON MFA OFFICIALS US VIEWS ON IBRD AID TO RVN
AND THEY HAVE PROMISED TO GIVE THEM FULL HIGH-LEVEL
CONSIDERATION WHEN PREPARING DANISH POSITION FOR NEXT
IBRD CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBOFF MET WITH REPSDROPH (DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR
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OF DANIDA, THE DANISH AID AGENCY ATTACHED TO MFA)

JANUARY 9 TO REITERATE IMPORTANCE WHICH USG ATTACHES TO PLANNED IBRD ASSISTANCE TO GVN AND TO URGE THAT DENMARK, TOGETHER WITH OTHER SCANDINAVIAN GOVERNMENTS, TAKE NO ACTION WHICH WOULD OBSTRUCT EARLY INITIATION OF THIS PROGRAM. REPSDORPH TOOK CAREFUL NOTES AND RPOMISED TO BRING US POSITION TO ATTENTION OF FOREIGN MINISTER. HE SAID THESE VIEWS WOULD BE GIVEN FULL CONSIDERATION AS DENMARK PREPARES ITS POSITION FOR THE NEXT INDOCHINA CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING. (WE INFORMED HIM WE UNDERSTAND THIS MIGHT BE FEBRUARY 11-12.)

2. RESDORPH SAID SAME PROBLEMS APPLY AS HE HAD OUTLINED AT OUR LAST MEETING ON THIS SUBJECT (REF B) BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT NEW NON-SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT MIGHT HAVE FEWER DOCTRINAIRE PROBLEMS WITH ISSUE. HE HASTENED TO ADD THAT THIS MAY NOT MAKE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCE SINCE PARLIAMENT IS, AFTER THE ELECTIONS, MORE FACTIONALIZED THAN PREVIOUSLY AND DANGER OF REAWAKENED ANTI-IBRD SENTIMENT WITHIN IT AND AMONG PUBLIC REMAINS. THIS COULD HAVE ADVERSE AFFECT ON IDA REPLENISHMENT VOTE SHOULD IBRD AID TO RVN BE CONSIDERABLY LARGER THAN AID TO OTHER GROUPS IN INDOCHINA.

3. REPSDORPH POINTED OUT THAT DENMARK HAS SHOWN STRONG SYMPATHY WITH NEED FOR ASSISTING RECONSTRUCTION OF RVN BY COMMITTING TOTAL OF DKR. 55 MILLION (ABOUT \$8.5 MILLION AT PRESENT EXCHANGE RATES) IN GRANT AID AND LOANS TO RVN, A CONSIDERABLE SUM FOR DENMARK. HE ALSO UNDERSTOOD THAT IBRD LOAN FOR RVN WAS WELL TOWARD FINAL STAGES OF PROCESSING. WHILE HE COULD OFFER NO ASSURANCES ON WHAT DANISH POSITIONS WOULD BE ON LOAN, HE REITERATED PREVIOUS REMARKS THAT DENMARK AND OTHER NORDICS WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO OBJECT TO NORMAL IBRD LOAN TO RVN, AN IBRD MEMBER COUNTRY. THE DANISH POSITION WOULD ULTIMATELY DEPEND ON THE SIZE OF THE LOA AND ITS TERMS. THE LARGER THE AID PACKAGE, THE GREATER THE DANISH DIFFICULTY.

4. EMBOFFS HAVE USED ALL POSSIBLE OCCASION OVER PAST FEW MONTHS TO BRIEF BOTH DANIDA AND FONOFF POLITICAL OFFICERS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN VIETNAM, AS RECEIVED IN DEPARTMENT CONFIDENTIAL

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COMMUNICATIONS. DEPARTMENT'S A-10523 WAS PARTICULARLY HELPFUL IN THIS REGARD AND REPSDORPH ADMITTED THAT THE ACCOUNT IT PROVIDES IS MARKEDLY DIFFERENT FROM STORIES HE READS IN THE LOCAL PRESS, HIS PRINCIPAL OTHER SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THAT AREA. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE BRIEFINGS ON VIETNAM DEVELOPMENTS TO APPROPRIATE DANISH OFFICIALS AS WE HAVE MATERIAL. WE HOPE THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO SEND IT.

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